## REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in the application.

In the Office Action dated September 10, 2004, the Examiner rejected claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. §102 (b) as being anticipated by Hosotani (U.S. Patent No. 4,703,819). Amended claim 1 is directed to a fully hydraulic steering including, among other things, an auxiliary force operated steering valve arranged in parallel to a steering unit between a supply connection arrangement (P, T) and a working connection arrangement (L, R), the auxiliary force operated steering valve being configured to supply a steering motor with hydraulic fluid.

Hosotani is directed to a full hydraulic power steering system wherein in order to correct the position of a steering wheel in relation to an actuator for a steered wheel, hydraulic fluid is discharged from a portion of hydraulic fluid line means interconnecting a steering unit operable by the steering wheel and the actuator. The steering system includes a control valve to regulate hydraulic fluid under pressure supplied by a steering pump and supplies an amount of hydraulic fluid to a steering cylinder. The amount of hydraulic fluid supplied by the steering unit is proportional to a steering wheel angle. (See col. 3, lines 30-38.) The steering cylinder serves as a hydraulic actuator for the steered wheel and comprises a pair of rods having their outer ends fixed to the vehicle body and their inner ends fixed to a piston disposed in the bore of a cylinder. (See col. 3, lines 42-49.) The outer ends of the rods are connected to the steering unit by hydraulic fluid lines identified as elements 21 and 22. For draining the hydraulic fluid lines, a change-over valve (5A, 5B) is provided.

In the Office Action, the Examiner equates the change-over valve 5B of Hosotani with the "auxiliary force operated steering valve" recited in claim 1. We disagree. The auxiliary force operated steering valve recited in claim 1 is operated to *supply* additional fluid to the steering motor, not to allow for the *draining* of the hydraulic lines. The auxiliary force operated steering valve of the present invention allows for the control of the amount of fluid supplied to the steering motor. The change-over valve of Hosotani operates to control the fluid draining from the steering motor. Accordingly, the operation of the auxiliary

force operated steering valve in the present application performs an essentially opposite function to that of the change-over valve (5B) in Hosotani.

Hosotani fails to disclose an auxiliary force operated valve configured to supply hydraulic fluid to a steering motor, as recited in claim 1. Since Hosotani fails to disclose each and every element of the claimed invention, Hosotani fails to anticipate claim 1. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn and claim 1 passed to issue.

Claims 2-9 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 1 and include additional recitations thereof. Therefore, for at least all the reasons discussed above, the rejection of claims 2-9 should be withdrawn and these claims also passed to issue.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-9 in the present application are in condition for allowance, and action to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Applicants hereby petition for a two-month extension of time in order to file a Response to Office Action in the above-identified application. The fee of $450.00 required under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is enclosed.

If any additional extension of time for the accompanying response is required, applicant requests that this paper be considered a petition therefor.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.17(a) to (d), which may be required to Deposit Account No. 13-0235.

Respectfully submitted,

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